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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2471
INFO RUCNAFG/AFGHANISTAN COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RUEHBUL/AMEMBASSY KABUL PRIORITY 0670
RUEHVL/AMEMBASSY VILNIUS PRIORITY 0158
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC PRIORITY
RHEFDIA/DIA WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RHEHAAA/NSC WASHDC PRIORITY
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY
RHMFIISS/USFJ PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 000916

SIPDIS

OSD/APSA FOR BASALLA/HAMM
USFJ FOR J00/J01/J3/J5

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TAGS: PGOV AID PGOV PINR PREL AF JA

SUBJECT: MOFA OFFICIALS TO VISIT AFGHANISTAN IN LATE APRIL,
ALL PRT STAFF IDENTIFIED

REF: JANUARY 9 2009 EMBASSY TOKYO DAILY ACTIVITY REPORT

Classified By: Charge d'Affaires, a.i., James P. Zumwalt, Reasons 1.4(b)
) and (d).

¶1. (C) Six representatives from the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA)'s National Security and Middle East Divisions and the Japanese Embassy in Kabul plan to travel to the Lithuanian PRT in Chaghcharan to make preparations for the initial dispatch of Japanese government officials and development experts (ref). The team will depart Japan on 28 April. Two officials who will be assigned to the Lithuanian PRT will also be part of the delegation.

¶2. (C) Separately, Japan has identified two MOFA staff and two outside aid experts as the initial secondees to Chaghcharan, according to MOFA National Security Division Deputy Director Mori. The senior MOFA official to be dispatched is currently assigned overseas, worked with the Japanese Ground Self-Defense Forces mission in Samawa, Iraq, and is an Arabic-speaking grant aid and economic cooperation expert. The junior MOFA official is also an Arabic expert and currently works in the Minister's Secretariat. The two outside specialists, one of whom is a fluent Dari speaker, both have extensive experience in aid work in Afghanistan, having previously worked at the Japanese Embassy in Kabul and at Japanese NGOs in Afghanistan.

¶3. (C) The junior MOFA official plans to arrive in Chaghcharan in mid-May, with the remaining members of the team arriving between late May and the end of June. Mori noted that the staff will rotate between Chaghcharan, the Japanese Embassy in Kabul, and Tokyo, with the regular staffing pattern at the PRT being a combination of two or three of the personnel.

ZUMWALT